

THURSDAY
JANUARY 23, 1997

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The Sea Coast Echo

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BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

SINGLE COPY 50 CENTS

ONE SECTION, 16 PAGES

Super Bowl excitement in county

'Cat' would be proud

BY BETSY GAGNET

A dream come true for avid football fans is to see their team win the Super Bowl.

Hancock County native Brett Favre could help make that dream come true for Green Bay Packer fans on Sunday, and no one would have been happier than Frank Trapani, owner of Trapani's Knock-Knock bar for over 50 years.

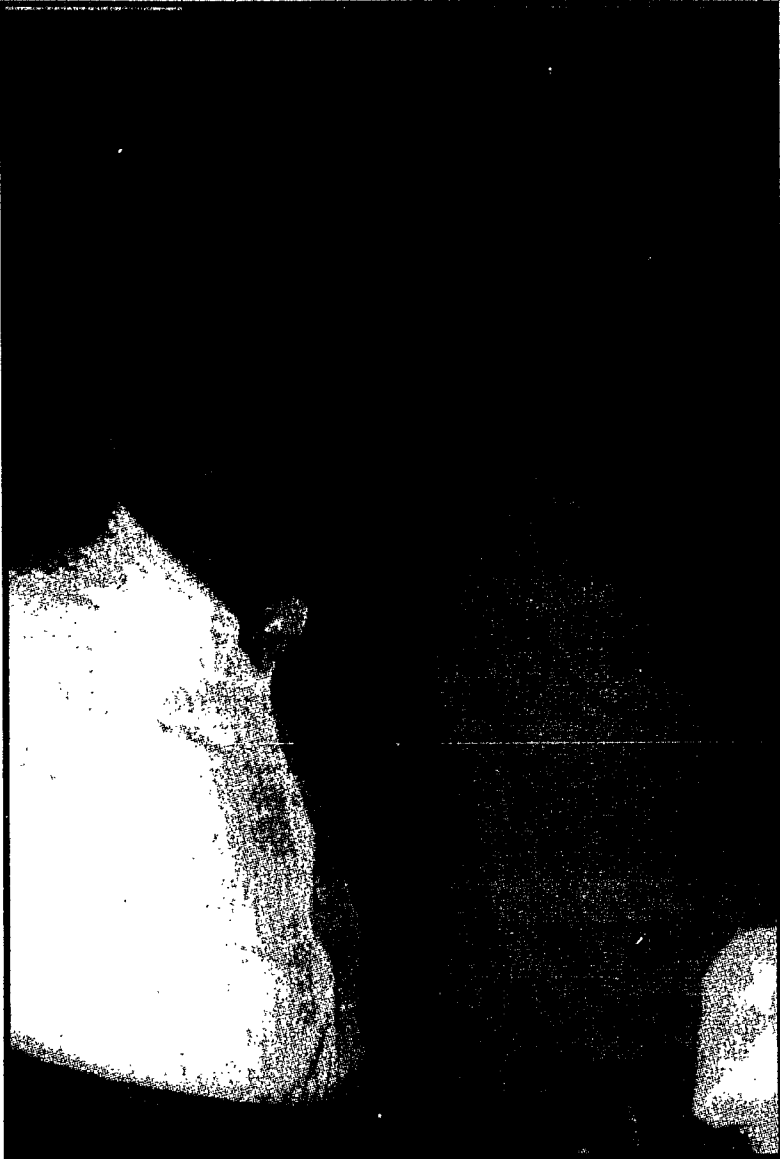
Trapani, who passed away Dec. 26, was about as "devout" a Brett Favre/Green Bay Packer fan as someone could be, according to his daughter, Janet Hitt.

"During the games, all my dad did was pray the rosary," Hitt said. "He prayed very hard that Brett would not get hurt."

Even without a Super Bowl victory, Hitt explained her father's dream has already come true.

"He (Trapani) would have loved that Brett was in the Super Bowl, but he would have loved that Brett was getting all this recognition even more," she

PROUD—PAGE 3



Frank Trapani stands with Green Bay Packer quarterback Brett Favre. Trapani was a devout Favre/Green Bay fan who was known for praying rosaries during games.

Favre's parents enjoying moment

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS

At age 27, Brett Favre has already traveled a long way since graduating from high school in 1987 from Hancock North Central, located between Kiln and Standard communities in Hancock County.

Favre, Green Bay's standout quarterback and the National Football League's Most Valuable Player for the second year in a row, is the feature attraction 50 miles away during Super Bowl week in New Orleans. Favre will lead the Packers against new England on Sunday.

Favre's father, Irvin Favre, was his high school coach and said, "When Brett finished high school he had two offers from small colleges and one junior college, and was way down the list on the University of Southern Mississippi's quarterback recruiting list."

"USM's area recruiter Mark McHale would tell me he just did not think Brett would make it. It was only when a large number of USM prospects signed with other schools that Brett was selected by USM and that was just as a defensive player. That would be to play any position the

team would feel he would be needed at," Favre added.

Both Irvin Favre and his wife Bonita are graduates of USM and were interested in him attending the Hattiesburg school.

Irvin Favre said his son attending USM "was the best thing that ever happened for him."

"Very few big colleges come (to Hancock County recruiting). Quarterbacks, there are hundreds of them. Brett played pretty good around here, but recruiters would say, 'you should see that guy in Alabama!' Brett got lucky, they (USM) offered him a scholarship and he signed it," Favre said.

Since Hancock North Central ran the wing-T offense, Brett Favre threw a minimum number of passes.

Irvin Favre said, "When the football season began at USM — they sent the freshmen in several days early before practice began — Brett was out on the field throwing the football around with the guys. Head coach Jim Carmody inquired as to 'who was that boy throwing

FAVRE—PAGE 10

Super Sunday

Main Street United Methodist Church in Bay St. Louis will be hosting "Souper Sunday" on Sunday, Jan. 26 at the 11 a.m. service.

Each year on Super Bowl Sunday, everyone is asked to bring canned soup, blankets, coats, shoes, or any other useable item to help the less fortunate members of the community.

The food items are donated to the Hancock County Food Pantry and the clothing is donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Society in Waveland.

For more information, please contact the church office at 467-4538.

Roast set

The St. Paul's Carnival Association will present a prime rib dinner, Saturday Jan. 25, 8:30 p.m. to midnight, at St. Paul's gym.

Pass Christian Mayor Billy McDonald will be roasted by Gulf Coast dignitaries.

The prime rib dinner will include au gratin potatoes, salad, bread, desert and tea for a donation of \$12.50 per person.

There will be a silent auction and live music by Crossroads.

TIDES

DAY	HIGH	LOW
Sat.	12:24 a.	11:34 a.
Sun.	12:56 a.	11:47 a.
Mon.	1:25 a.	11:46 a.
Tues.	1:50 a.	11:27 a.
Wed.	2:00 a.	10:42 a.
	6:06 p.	
Thur.	5:55 p.	9:00 a.



Days Inn razed

Demolition crews dismantled the Days Inn Motel at Henderson Point this week to make way for the realignment of Highway 90. All that's left is the swimming pool that fronted the 59-unit motel. Related story on Page 3. (Echo staff photo by Richard Meek)

Ineligible voters void bond issue petition

BY ED LEPOMA

Citizens who signed a petition calling for an election in Hancock County on a proposed \$6 million road bond issue have until Jan. 31 to prove they're qualified voters.

Circuit Clerk Pam Metzler came before the Board of Supervisors Tuesday to report she had disqualified 520 of 1,667 signatures collected by former supervisor Jerry Ladner, and was able to certify that only 1,157 who signed the petition were actually registered voters.

"No one touched this petition but myself and Kendra" (Flowers, her assistant), said Metzler.

Metzler said she and Flowers worked Monday while other county employees were off for the Martin Luther King holiday and up until early Tuesday morning to verify the

signatures.

She said 21 who signed were motor voters, making them eligible to vote in only national elections, not county or state elections; three signatures were duplicates; 291 were not registered voters; 66 signed for themselves and their spouses; and 139 signatures were illegible.

"We simply couldn't read their handwriting. It was scribble-scrabble," said Metzler.

State law requires signatures of 1,500 registered voters in order to call an election on any issue, and Metzler said, under the law, those ruled ineligible will have 10 days to come and swear out an affidavit and identify a signature as their own and that they are registered voters. The list is posted in the lobby of the Hancock County Courthouse on Main Street in downtown Bay St.

Louis.

"We did everything we legally could to verify the signatures," said Metzler. She said some of the signatures were checked three times. "It makes no difference to me whether we have an election or don't have one," Metzler said.

If the disqualifications hold up, supervisors can adjudicate Metzler's finding at their meeting scheduled for Feb. 3.

Board President Philip Moran thanked Metzler and her assistant for their work, and recognized Ladner, who was sitting in the meeting room.

"I want to put you all on notice that we are going to pursue every legal avenue we have" (to call for an election) Ladner warned. He claimed it is a violation of the U.S. Constitution to raise taxes without an election.

BOND—PAGE 10

Zoning officer keeping busy

BY ED LEPOMA

Hancock County's Zoning Enforcement Office is logging 15 to 20 calls a day since supervisors passed a comprehensive zoning ordinance Jan. 6.

Willie Gavney said he and his secretary have been able to handle the extra workload so far.

"Mainly, they're calling asking what zone they're in and what they can have on their property. They're also seeking about setback requirements," said Gavney.

Gavney said he's also distributed about 20 copies of the zoning text, along with about 20 maps, and more are on order. There is a slight charge for the text and map, he says.

Under the new regulations, everyone in unincorporated

areas of Hancock County must now apply for a Certificate of Compliance before moving a temporary structure on their property or before starting new house construction or expansion on existing premises.

There is a \$15 charge for the certificate, which can only be obtained at the Planning Commission offices on Main Street across from the County Courthouse in Bay St. Louis. The office is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Supervisors have also asked Mississippi Power Company and Coast Electric not to provide residents with permanent electrical hookup until they have obtained the certificate.

ZONING—PAGE 10



Dr. King remembered

Bay St. Louis Councilman Tom Farve delivers comments during a ceremony celebrating Martin Luther King Day Monday at the Bay Flag Memorial Walking Track. Standing behind Farve are Bay Councilman Charles Scianna (left) and Fr. A. Francis Theriault, pastor of St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church. Fr. Theriault gave a short history of Dr. King. (Echo staff photo by Randy Ponder)

OBITUARY

ALBRA BIGNER
June Rose Craven, 50, of Gulfport, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Arrangements are incomplete at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

JUNE ROSE CRAVEN
June Rose Craven, 50, of Gulfport, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 1997, in Gulfport.

Mrs. Craven, a homemaker, was born in Norwich, England, and had been a resident of the Coast for 20 years.

Survivors include her husband, Sidney Craven of Gulfport; her mother, Patricia May of England; three sons, Gregory Craven of Gulfport, Pat Craven of Pass Christian and Leo Craven of Woodlark; six brothers, Brandon May, Carl May, Patrick Howes, Mark May, Trevor May and Melvin May; two sisters, Sally Yoeman and Mary Grimwald, all of England; and six grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday evening at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Gulfport. Services were conducted Thursday at the funeral home chapel. Burial was in Biloxi National Cemetery.

HAZEL T. FLORANE
Mrs. Hazel T. Florane, 83, of Gulfport, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Florane was born in Columbia, Miss., and had been a resident of the Coast for 22 years. She retired from Winn-Dixie Stores in New Orleans.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Florane.

Survivors include a daughter, Jan Delaney of Gulfport; a sister, Mrs. Thelma Coleman of Pascagoula; two granddaughters, Janet Abernathy of Jackson and Julie Schloeger of Gulfport; and one grandson, Michael Schloeger.

Visitation was Wednesday at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Gulfport. A graveside service followed in Floral Hills Memorial Gardens in Gulfport.

The family prefers memorial contributions to one's favorite charity.

BARBARA J. KINGSTON
Barbara Jean Kingston, 38, of Bay St. Louis, died Sunday, Jan. 19, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Kingston was a native of Bay St. Louis and a Catholic. She was preceded in death by two sons, Douglas Brian Platon and Juan Colon.

Survivors include her husband, Wesley Y. Kingston of Waveland; a daughter, Barbara Ellen Colon of Augusta, Ga.; her parents, Irvin and Barbara Kingston of Bay St. Louis; a brother, Rock Kingston of Waveland; five sisters, Laura Green of Deweyville, Texas, Deborah Riley and Rebecca Graves, both of Bay St. Louis, Marsha Torres of Humble, Texas, and Lisa Winters of California; and two grandchildren.

Visitation and services were conducted Wednesday evening at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

EVELYN HALL LEARY
Evelyn Hall Leary, 67, of Waveland, died Saturday, Jan. 11, 1997.

Mrs. Leary was a native of Montgomery, Ala., and lived in Waveland for 25 years. She retired from South Central Bell after 22 years of service.

She was preceded in death by her father, Evelyn Marcellus Hall.

Survivors include her husband, Gannon Leary of Waveland; her mother, Eva Hall of Montgomery; a brother, Eugene Hall of Prattville, Ala.; and three sisters, Betty Hall Cheek of Montgomery, Brenda Hall Gililand of Hurley and JoAnn Hall Lawery of Birmingham.

Services were conducted Jan. 15 at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis. Burial was in Gulf Coast Memorial Cemetery in Bay St. Louis.

DALE E. MICKEY
Dale E. Mickey, 70, of Gulfport, died Thursday, Jan. 16, 1997, in Biloxi.

Mr. Mickey was a native of Clovis, N.M. He was a member of First Christian Church of Gulfport, where he was a Deacon and a member of the Christian Men's Fellowship, the Church Choir and was church caretaker. He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was formerly employed at Southern Memorial Park Cemetery in Biloxi for many years.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Alice Marie Bosarge Mickey; a brother, Frances Mickey; and his parents, Samuel and Bernese Mickey.

Survivors include three sons, Ronald Mickey of Burleson, Texas, Gordon Mickey of Cambridge, Mass., and Rube Richards Jr. of University Heights, Ohio; a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Chapman of Pass Christian; a brother, Howard Mickey of Houston; a sister, Doris Morman of Pecos, Texas; and five grandchildren.

Services were conducted Tuesday at First Christian Church in Gulfport. Burial was in National Cemetery in Biloxi.

Riemann Funeral Home in Gulfport was in charge of arrangements.

TOMMY M. PARKER
Tommy Martin Parker, 66, of New Orleans, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 1997, in New Orleans.

Mr. Parker was a native of Purvis and was a textile machine operator for Lighthouse for the Blind. He was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Manouvier Parker of New Orleans; three sons, Tony Parker of Poplarville, Johnny Parker of New Orleans and Freddie Parker; a daughter, Janell Parker Moore, both of Picayune; three sisters, Shelby Volpe of Diamondhead, Johnnie Mae Daigle of New Orleans and Darla Sanders of Baton Rouge; and 14 grandchildren.

Visitation was Sunday evening at McDonald Funeral Home in Picayune. Services were conducted Monday at the funeral home chapel. Burial was in New Palestine Cemetery in Picayune.

ALEX J. PUJOL
Alex J. Pujol, 76, of Pass Christian, died Sunday, Jan. 12, 1997, in New Orleans.

Mr. Pujol was a native of Long Beach and was a lifelong Coast resident. He was a City of Long Beach employee and was a Catholic.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred Pujol and Pearl Beach Pujol.

Survivors include his wife, Anna Stegenga Pujol of Pass Christian; a son, Jessie Pujol of Chalmette, La.; seven daughters, Mary Pavolini, Elaine Foster, Peaches Cuevas, all of Delisle, Betty Lane of Bassfield, Gladys Kilgore of Perkinston, Brenda Pope of Irvington, Ala., and Marie Landford of Gulfport; a stepdaughter, Shirley Pavolini of Bendale; a stepbrother, Clarence Pujol of Delisle; a sister, Marion McGill of Long Beach; two stepdaughters, Lillian Ferguson of Lizana and Florence Harshbarger of Delisle; 23 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday evening at St. Ann Catholic Church in Dubuison. Services were conducted Wednesday at the church, followed by burial in Delisle Cemetery.

FREDERICK H. RACHUBA
Frederick Henry Rachuba, 72, of Pass Christian, died Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1997, in Gulfport.

Mr. Rachuba was a native of Pass Christian and a member of St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian. He was a lifetime member of VFW Post 5931, Pass Christian, and a former 3rd and 4th Degree Knight of Columbus in Bay St. Louis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Francis W. Rachuba Sr. and Camille Bentz Ritchie; two brothers, Francis William Rachuba Jr. and Leon Joseph Rachuba.

Survivors include his wife, Harriett Johnson Rachuba of Pass Christian; two daughters, Deborah Rachuba Fournier of Pass Christian and Kathleen Rachuba Blakeslee of Houston, Texas; a stepdaughter, Susan Willard of Pass Christian and two stepsons, David Willard and Calvin Willard, both of Pass Christian.

Mass will be celebrated Friday, Jan. 24 at 11 a.m. at St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian, where friends may call one hour before services. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery in Pass Christian.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

ANNA JUTTA SCHNEIDER
Mrs. Anna Jutta Schneider, 65, of Waveland, died Friday, January 3, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Schneider was a native of Bamberg, Germany. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alois and Elisabeth Zapf Schneider.

Survivors include a brother, Werner Schneider of Wiesbaden, Germany.

A private service will be conducted at a later date.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

ST. ANN AND ST. JOHN NEWS

St. Ann-St. John Altar Society members will meet today, Thursday, Jan. 23 for their monthly meeting.

Immediately following at noon, the ladies will be serving a delicious reasonably priced luncheon. Everyone is invited. The afternoon off fun and games, which follows will complete your day. Plan to meet your friends at St. Ann's.

The parish Men's Club members meeting is scheduled for today at 7 p.m. in the parish hall. New members are always welcome.

On Monday, Feb. 3, Feast of St. Blasie, there will be Blessing of Throats. More information on schedule later.

St. Ann-St. John CYO members will meet in the parish hall Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Dedication of the Holy Infant of Good Health Chapel and Church Extension is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 15 during the 4 p.m. Mass at St. Ann's, Clermont Harbor. Anyone interested in helping in any way may contact the parish office (467-4746).

The Triduum of Masses will begin Thursday, Feb. 13 and continue through Saturday, Feb. 15.

First Reconciliation for First Communion Class will be Saturday, Feb. 22 at St. Ann Church.

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WILLIAM A. TAYLOR
William Arnold Taylor, 76, of Purvis, died Monday, Jan. 20, 1997, in Purvis.

Mr. Taylor was a lifelong resident of Purvis. He retired in 1969 as a chief gunner's mate after 20 years with the Navy. He was a chicken farmer and worked with Broome Construction on turn-arounds at Hess Refinery. He was a Baptist.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Engle Lyon Taylor Sr. and Tom King Taylor.

Survivors include his wife, Deane Taylor; two daughters, Carmen Sandifer, both of Bay St. Louis, and Desma Nelson of Bay St. Louis; a son, William A. "Bill" Taylor; two sisters, Sissy Hudson, both of Purvis, and Zula Larsen of Midland, Mich.; a brother, Larry Don Taylor of Purvis; and three grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday evening at Moore Funeral Home in Purvis. Services will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. today at the funeral home chapel, with burial in Coalton Cemetery.

The family prefers memorials to the American Cancer Society.

OBITS—PAGE 3

RAYOU JEWELERS
466-0425

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Leave message if no answer



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MEDICAL CENTER

The Business Office will be closed
Friday, January 24

during its move to the new Business & Education Complex located on the northeast corner of the hospital campus. Normal hours will resume on Monday at 8 a.m. Thank you for your cooperation.

149 Drinkwater Bay St. Louis 467-8600

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Day too

BY ED
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BY ELLIS
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ALL ABOUT

Days Inn in Pass demolished to make room for Henderson Point realignment

BY ED LEPOMA

A Days Inn motel that stood in the way of a realignment of Highway 90 at Henderson Point is now history.

Demolition crews began tearing down the 59-room, two-year-old structure on Saturday, and by Wednesday all that was left was rubble and the swimming pool, which fronted the beach.

Closer to Pass Christian Isles, site clearing had already

begun of a corner lot fronting Bay View and Hwy. 90 about three weeks ago, even though the Mississippi Department of Transportation has not yet let the project.

The project affects a total 34 landowners, mostly located on the south side of Hwy. 90 near Henderson Point. The contract calls for realigning the state highway, and replacing the frightening narrow bridge over the L&N Railroad tracks.

A dangerous curve, where estimates are 32 lives have been lost over the last 10 years, will be straightened out. And, the new bridge will be four lanes and feature fenced-in walkways on each side for pedestrians. The present bridge, built in 1936, had two narrow lanes.

Monte Luffey, who says he has invested approximately \$2 million to buy the land and build the motel in 1994, said MDOT took the property under the "quick take" regulations.

It allows the state to escrow the money offered him for his building, tear it down, then schedule a hearing in Chancery

Court to see if he and the state could come to terms on the fair value of the property.

Luffey, the major investor in the Days Inn, says the state offered him "about \$2 million, but it would cost me between \$3 million to \$3.5 million to rebuild somewhere else at current construction costs." The 1.7 acres of land the motel occupied has 165 feet of highway frontage and was directly across from the sand beach.

He said he is looking forward to a hearing in Harrison County Chancery Court around the first of April, "And, I'm going to ask for a jury trial."

He contends, before he began attracting investors and started building the Days Inn, he approached MDOT about the possibility of the motel being in the way of any highway realignment and was told it might be five, to 10 to 20 years away.

MDOT spokesmen say the project was a top priority and on the drawing board for years, but the influx of gambling money into Harrison County made it possible to let the project sooner than expected.

The project was originally expected to be let in October, but it hasn't been awarded yet. Work is expected to take 18 to 24 months, depending on the weather.

A family affair in Favre's enterprises

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS

Green Bay's star quarterback Brett Favre's mother, father, wife and brother are all involved in his business and charity activities.

His former high school head coach and father, Irvin Favre, runs Favre Agricultural. Brett Favre has a cattle farm in Hancock County, where he raises Black Angus cows. Irvin Favre handles the outside part of the operation.

Bonita Favre, Brett's mother, manages Favre's Enterprises, that is money Brett generates outside of football.

Wife Deanna Favre runs the Favre Forward Foundation, which is Brett's charity foundation.

Brett Favre is president, and Irvin and Bonita are also members of the board of directors, and are accustomed to raising money for charity.

Brother Scott Favre runs his brother's company, Favre Property Management, located in Diamondhead. The company buys different types of property, such as apartments, condos,

etc. Irvin said, "Last year the Favre Forward Foundation had two major places Brett wanted to get money to. One was the Cystic Fibrosis of Mississippi. He gave them \$35,000. The other, Special Olympics of Mississippi, he gave \$35,000. He also gave \$6,000 to the Girls Club of Green Bay."

The bulk of that money was raised from the Brett Favre Celebrity Golf Tournament held in Gulfport. It was sponsored by Grand Casino in Gulfport.

A second tournament is scheduled for May of this year.

When asked if it would be possible for that tournament to be held at Casino Magic's course in Bay St. Louis, Irvin said "we have a contract with Grand Casino, but that is still a possibility down the road."

A brother, Jeff Favre, an accounting graduate of USM, works for the First Star Bank in Milwaukee, Wis.

The youngster of the family, Brandi Favre, is a sophomore at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Sheriff plans added security in Kiln; Favre Day declared

Fan and media activity in Kiln is forcing the Hancock County Sheriff's Office to beef up patrols in the area, possibly as early as today. The Board of Supervisors also voted to close the old Kiln-Picayune Road "as needed" from the blinking light in Kiln, past the Broke Spoke Bar, stopping just east of the old VFW Road.

The action came in anticipation of planned activities in the area of the Broke Spoke Lounge.

The supervisors also passed a resolution declaring Friday Brett Favre Day. Favre grew up near Kiln, and attended Hancock North Central.

Sheriff Ronnie Peterson said that no later than Friday, potentially as early as today, two extra units will be patrolling the Kiln area. Larger crowds are expected in the area, espe-

cially as the Super Bowl draws near.

"We might have to send three to four (additional) units," Peterson said. "We'll do whatever it takes."

"We want everybody to have a good time, but do it peacefully. We don't want the roads blocked."

Traffic has increased significantly in Kiln since Favre guided the Packers to a Super Bowl berth. The area is being flooded with national media, as well as Packer fans wanting to visit where Favre played his high school football.

Despite the heightened activity, Peterson said no problems

have been reported.

"It seems like everybody is having a good time, and enjoying the publicity," he said.

Peterson said the peak of the activity may come during the Super Bowl and immediately after, especially if the Packers defeat New England.

Labat honored

Jennifer Shenell Labat of Bay St. Louis was named to the University of Mississippi dean's honor roll for the fall semester.

Proud

Continued from Page 1

said. "My dad always thought he (Favre) was a good boy and a hometown boy and that everyone should support him."

Watching the Green Bay games was always a big event for the entire family, Hitt said.

Last season the games were carried on Channel 25, but in previous years the only way to see a game was to have a satellite dish.

"My father was the kind of person who asked you something a million times," Hitt laughed. "When the games were on satellite, he called the Favres house to find out what channel the game was coming on. (Brett's brother) Scott must have told him 100 times each week what channel a game was coming on, and he never lost his patience or got aggravated."

Trapani's wife Jennie said her husband had at least one requirement for watching a Green Bay game.

"He had to see it on a big screen," Jennie Trapani said. "Our television was too small."

Accordingly, most of the games were watched at Hitt's house, complete with the appropriate Green Bay decorations, including a windsock shaped like a Packer football player hung by the television, and a huge Packer flag.

During the games Trapani was known to rub novena cards to pieces and was truly affected by the games.

"If Brett was not doing well he (Trapani) got physically ill," Hitt said. "If Brett got sacked, he would just cry. My dad never wanted to see Brett get hurt."

Once a year Hitt accompanied her father to a Green Bay game, having been to New Orleans and Houston.

"The first year Brett was with the Packers he sent my father a ticket to a game in Houston," Hitt said. "Brett always wanted him to go to a game in Green Bay, but I was afraid it would have been too hard on him."

The family ties between the Favres and the Trapanis go way back.

Brett Favre's grandfather

was Benny French, who was in the restaurant/lounge business like Trapani.

Hitt and Favre's mother, Bonita, were classmates at St. Joseph's throughout elementary and high school and remain good friends today.

Additionally, Hitt's daughter Dina, attended USM at the same time as Favre and went to every game, including the away games.

"My dad always looked at Brett as his friend Benny's grandson and Bonita's son," Janet Hitt explained.

Attending games has made the family some new friends, including David and Cheryl Paramentier who live in Green Bay.

For the New Orleans game, their seats were at the top of the Louisiana Superdome where the steps get very steep, Hitt explained.

She said she was having a hard time getting her dad to his seat when David Paramentier came down and walked Trapani to his seat.

Coincidentally, Hitt and her father were seated right in front of the Green Bay couple.

"He (Paramentier) was like a guardian angel coming down to help us and then he walked my dad to the restroom at half time and down the steps after the game," Hitt explained. "He had no idea who we were, but came down to help this elderly man dressed in Green Bay clothes."

Hitt remains in touch with the Paramentiers, who send down Green Bay newspapers for her to read.

"It's wonderful to get all of this stuff," Hitt said.

Next to watching the games, what Trapani liked best was talking about Favre, Hitt said.

"After he (Trapani) retired in 1992 every day he went to Lil Ray's, Daddy O's and the Knock-Knock," Hitt said. "All day he drank coffee and talked about Brett Favre."

Hitt said her father could recite every Green Bay or Favre statistic including number of touchdowns, yard passed and the score of every game.

She said Favre and his family were always nice to her father and Favre sent all kinds of memorabilia down to Trapani. After Trapani's death, Favre sent to Hitt an autographed jersey.

"He (Favre) is as nice a kid as you ever want to know," Hitt said. "The thing I like most about him is that he loves his family."

"Whenever he's quoted he always says something about his father or his family and what they mean to him," she continued. "I think it's a great quality in a young man."

Last year Trapani attended a Packers game in Houston.

As the Green Bay team prepared to leave the hotel for the game, Favre grabbed Trapani to take a picture.

"He (Favre) had his suitcase on his arm and said 'Come on Cat (Trapani's nickname), let's take a picture,'" Hitt said.

Favre was well aware of all of Trapani's prayers and welcomed them, Hitt said.

"He always knew my dad was praying for him," Hitt said. "He said 'Tell Mr. Frank to keep on praying.'"

Obits

Continued from Page 2

LOUISE M. WALKER

Louise Middleton Walker, 76, of Bay St. Louis, died Monday, Jan. 20, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Ms. Walker was a retired insurance agent. She was a native of Arkansas and a member of First Baptist Church in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Everett G. Middleton Sr. and Bessie Miller Middleton; and a brother, Everett G. Middleton Jr.

Survivors include a brother, Vernon Middleton of Gulfport; and a sister, Mrs. Juanita Hunnicutt of Sebastian, Fla.

Services will be conducted 11 a.m. today at First Baptist Church in Bay St. Louis, where friends may call after 10 a.m. Burial will be in Long Beach Cemetery.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

ANTHONY ZOMUDA

Anthony Zomuda, 86, of Diamondhead, died Saturday, Jan. 18, 1997, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Zomuda was sent from Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis to Picayune Memorial Funeral Home for services and burial.

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Hines Lumber Company, Kiln, Mississippi

Kiln, Mississippi was bursting at its seams until the big stock market crash in 1929. The key industry in the area was the Hines Lumber Company mill located on the Jourdan River. Kiln at the time had separate hotels for blacks and whites, motion picture theatre, hospital, railroad depot, grocery stores, mill commissary, barber

shops, drug store, post office, three churches, shipyard, turpentine store and other businesses. Sam Whitfield Timber Company now operates from the area. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Birdie Favre Ladner, of Kiln, a distant cousin of Brett Favre.) The Echo welcomes photos older than 25 years for publication. They will be returned to their owners.



"CUEVAS" QUOTES

By Ellis C. Cuevas

Still the hottest news around is Brett Favre and the Super Bowl Sunday in New Orleans.

Kiln, Miss. is one of the most popular communities for its size in the nation this week.

Television cameramen, newspaper and magazine reporters have all been visiting the area where Brett attended school and grew up.

Brett's father, Irvin Favre, has been interviewed by a large number of news folks at the family's Rotten Bayou resident in the tiny Fenton community.

All types of items, mostly green and gold, have been selling like hot cakes in the area.

Among those merchants is Peggy Ladner of Kiln Supermarket who is selling her special "Southern Packer Backer, Kiln, Mississippi" t-shirts.

Ladner told me she was on British TV and also radio in Columbus, Ohio, on Wednesday morning.

Word is that the Kiln on Wednesday was just covered with "foreign" Packer fans.

Singing duo Dodie Fountain of Waveland and Karen Harvill of Pass Christian, known as the *Mississippi Mamas* have written and recorded on a cassette a song titled *Favre Fever*.

All that needs to happen now is for Green Bay to win the Super Bowl. Go, Brett, and the Pack!

Evelyn Johnson, with the Hancock County Food Pantry visited the office Wednesday morning asking if I would make a request for the organization.

As most of you know, the food pantry has now moved into a more spacious location in the new County Annex on Ulman Avenue.

Several of the old refrigerators have seen their days, but they have a walk-in cooler. The only problem is that they are in need of a single phase compressor for the cooler.

If you have one and would like to donate it to a very worthy organization, give George Sauzer, 255-1255, a call. Sauzer is donating his time to install the cooler.

Just an update on the works of the food pantry. Since opening in May, 1986, help has been given to 10,306 deserving families, totaling 30,682 folks.

Last year the pantry helped 250 families a month, and this year that figure has moved up to 350 families, Mrs. Johnson reports.

My old high school classmate, Billy McDonald, mayor of Pass Christian, will be roasted on Saturday night. It is a benefit for the St. Paul's Carnival Association which parades the Sunday before Mardi Gras.

The event will be a prime rib dinner with au gratin potatoes, salad, bread, dessert and tea, all for a donation of \$12.50 per person.

There will even be live entertainment by the Crossroads.

The roast will be by Gulf Coast dignitaries. Look out Billy, sounds like they will be after you.

Wild family appreciates kindnesses from everyone

Dear Editor,

We need to express our appreciation to all during our ordeal.

First to the Peoples Bank who "stood by their man" from Mr. Chevis Swetman, who gave us a hug and reassurance when it was most needed, and to Pat's fellow employees, who shared our terror.

We cannot begin to fathom our sons' own terror, our own was overwhelming. Thank God for their safety. The law enforcement agencies were all out in full force. Our gratitude to

Sheriff Peterson who took us aside to assure us that they were looking at all angles.

We dealt mostly with "our FBI." Their professionalism and kindness made us feel they were one with us.

Even after our boys were returned, until the culprit was apprehended, we still live in fear. Our neighbors and family were there for us. To all who joined in prayer, God answered. Now we pray in thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Bill and Marilyn Wild
Diamondhead

Purchasers of puppies should know where they come from

To the Editor:

There is a woman who lives in a Hwy. 90 motel who makes her living by selling dogs and puppies. Where she gets these animals is a mystery, yet she sells the animals in front of grocery stores and the large department stores.

The puppies are worn out, thirsty and hungry after being shoved into passers-by faces for the better part of a day until someone who can't stand to see their misery any longer buys one.

These animals for the most part are not well. Several times she has asked the humane society for help to take puppies to a veterinarian.

We did pay the vet's bill, but when she was told by us that we did not approve of what she was doing she no longer asked for help.

But the people who are buying these dogs and puppies do call and ask us for help when they find out how sick the animals are.

Some of the local vets have refused to see these animals when they find out where they

came from, because so many have parvo or distemper, and the vets are afraid to contaminate their offices.

I suspect that many of these puppies come from the "free puppy" adds in the newspapers and on the walls of stores. The humane society begs the people of Hancock County who are having so many unwanted puppies to please turn them over to the Waveland Animal Shelter.

There they will have a chance to be adopted, get their shots, be spayed or neutered and live a long, healthy life.

We beg with even more fervor to come to our flea market and get spay-neuter vouchers so they can have the adult dogs spayed or neutered.

People of Hancock County, stop breeding pain and misery. Do the right thing.

Be responsible pet owners, and should you choose to ignore this message, at least bring the puppies to the shelter in Waveland.

Thyla P. Rogers
President, Hancock County Humane Society

Reader feels zoning will not increase all values

To the Editor:

This letter is in reference to the headlines on your paper of Jan. 9 "Zoning ordinance adopted: Historic day in county. Local leaders pleased."

It also states that proponents contend it will protect all property owners and result in escalating property values throughout the county. This last statement is not true.

Most septic tanks and drainage fields successfully disposed of residential sewerage for about a hundred years, then last July the right to build a septic system on a person's own property was eliminated which also eliminated the value of all building lots that are less than three acres, or did not have a sewer line to hook up to, plus a negative value, which is less than nothing, because taxes will have to be paid, or the state will confiscate them. NEW BRWA

However, the lots located close to sewer lines have increased in value. The people

who own lots that have increased in value will probably be pleased while those who lost all value are most likely unhappy.

While the United States government is trying to reduce laws, rules and regulations, and also reduce taxes, Hancock County is continuing to increase laws and taxes.

It would have worked out better if the supervisors and state legislators would have went back to the old way of doing when septic tanks were invented.

The government hired a person to help anyone who wanted to build a septic tank and install plumbing to replace out-houses to figure out a system that would work instead of spending his money on something that would not work.

The next law will take away a person's right to build a house on his property unless he has a house to do this. M. or 233

Bill Quandt
Bayside Park

'Miss Shirley' was always kind to those around her

To the Editor:

I would like to pay public tribute to Mrs. Shirley Hodgins, who recently passed away. "Miss Shirley" was the secretary of Waveland Elementary School at the time that I also worked there as their librarian. She was a truly remarkable lady.

Miss Shirley was the very first person I met at the school on the day I had my job interview with the principal, Mr. James Baldree. She immediately made me feel as though I had come home after a long absence, as did all of the teachers and staff. Indeed, they were an outstanding group of people.

School secretaries perform a tough, tough job. They are very often among the first to become aware of serious problems. And a school office is a "crazy kind of a place." There is never just one thing going on, one thing to do. More often than not, a half dozen things are going on at once. Even on the best day, it is a very challenging atmosphere in which to work.

In spite of all that, Miss Shirley was always one of a "cheerful countenance" (Proverbs 15:13). She was always

friendly, and I don't think I ever saw her really angry. She loved the children and was at her very best when she was with them. She was unfailingly loyal to the school and to her boss, Mr. Baldree.

I particularly recall a morning when she accidentally tripped in the parking lot during a very heavy, early morning rain. She came into the building soaked to the skin and with her face bleeding, but she took the experience with remarkable good grace. Her chief concern was that her husband, Bill, would be worried.

Miss Shirley will always be admired for the fact that she continued to work long after she could have retired due to a really serious illness.

In all the time that I knew her, Miss Shirley was always, always kind to those around her. I have never heard anyone say an unkind word about her. I have never heard anyone say they didn't like her.

We all love you, Miss Shirley. Our hats are off to a great lady.

Sincerely yours,
Sue A. Osborn
Waveland

The last drink

To the Editor:

Can you remember your last drink? I'm reminded of mine on a daily basis. You see, I look around and see brick walls, high fences and a lot of steel bars. I have a lot of boxes called correctional officers. My home is the Hancock County Justice Facility.

God gave me a lot. God took a lot away, but most of all I'm grateful for what He left me. I have found hope behind these walls. My life had been in prison for the past 33 years because of alcohol, and I was a free man again.

My best friend, I don't know where he is. I don't know where he is. I don't know where he is.

Main Street with a loaded gun in your hand. Sooner or later it will go off, and you will find yourself in here with me. It can happen to anybody if you drink and drive. There is no exception to the rule.

I've seen many men and women and even teenagers locked up because of alcohol and drugs. There is help for these addicts in 12-step recovery programs. You have to want help. No one can do it for you.

I think God might be letting me know that I need to get out of here and couldn't be there. It's sure nice to be out. Thank Him for that.

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IN AND AROUND DIAMONDHEAD

By Margaret Williamson

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KREWE OF SELENE
Starting off the Mardi Gras festivities in Diamondhead, the Krewe of Selene (Goddess of the Moon) will present its first parade Saturday, Jan. 25, starting at the walking trail at 5 p.m. Terri Downey, captain and organizer of the group, will lead the way down Diamondhead Drive East, turning by the fire station and ending at the Diamondhead Burger King where the group will disburse. Lots of moon children, Diamondhead strutters, etc. and a local band will entertain viewers along the way. Larry and Beverly Dollar of Diamondhead Quik Lube provided the organization (over 100 strong) with a flat-bed truck decorated for the occasion. Terri said there will be no queen or a ball this year, but

just wait, the plans call for bigger and better for 1998.

DON'T FORGET

The ladies of St. Vincent de Paul have been working hard on their giant rummage and cake sale to be held at the Annunciation Parish Hall Saturday, Jan. 25 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Proceeds benefit the needy in Hancock County. There's still time to donate items for this worthy cause. Please call Betty Krieger at 255-2904 for information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

A celebration of 50 years, "Flowers by the Sea," at USM Gulf Park campus in Long Beach is March 11-13, a floral and horticultural exposition of

the Mississippi Gulf Coast; the golden anniversary of the annual Spring Pilgrimage, 50 years of hospitality and shared love of God's gifts.

FLY, FLY AWAY

"Fly, Fly Away" is the theme of the Krewe of Diamondhead's Mardi Gras parade Saturday, Feb. 7 at noon starting at the old country club site and ending at the Diamondhead Yacht Club. This year the group will parade across I-10, and very strict procedures will apply. There's still time and a place for your group, etc. to be a part of this bigger and better-than-ever Mardi Gras happening. Call Chris Arnos at 255-7297 for information.

HER MAJESTY

Last evening the Krewe of

Nereids spectacular ball, "Nereids Stays Home," celebrated in extraordinary fashion most of the things our Gulf Coast is famous for.

Much to the surprise and delight of a lot of the Diamondhead folks attending was King Dr. Allen Koskan's beautiful queen, Dottie Council, manager of the Diamondhead branch of Merchants Bank.

THOUGHTS TO SHARE

Life's simplest things are love and kindly friends, nature's sweet charm of earth and sea and sky. Gladness of the soul that with right living blends — home's dear content, so cheap that all may buy.

Have a great week.

United Way raises \$1.42 m

"1996 has been our most successful campaign year ever," said David A. Treutel Jr., 1996 board president, as he announced campaign results at United Way of South Mississippi's (UWSM) annual volunteer banquet that was held Jan. 14.

The local community campaign pledged \$1.42 million. This represents a 4 percent increase over last year's campaign.

"Compared to UWSM's 1992 campaign, which raised \$718,409, we have effectively doubled our campaign in five years!" The Southern Mississippi Combined Federal Campaign raised an additional \$760,206 with \$120,000 of that amount pledged to UWSM's partner agencies.

The top-10 contributors to this year's UWSM campaign received awards for their outstanding campaigns. Carlos Hicks, 1996 campaign chair, said, "We have had the same businesses in the top spot until someone decided to break the bank this year!"

Casino Magic Corporation jumped from the number five giver to the top spot by leading the campaign with the largest gift in UWSM's history, a gift of just over \$248,000. As Tim Hinkley of the Isle of Capri put it, "They smoked us!"

Other top 10 givers include Mississippi Power Company, Isle of Capri Casino, Grand Casinos, Dupont, The Sun Herald, Johnson Controls - Stennis

Space Center, Delchamps Super Markets, Lockheed Martin - Michoud and Hancock Bank. Companies raise money for United Way through employee donations and corporate pledges.

Several Hancock County businesses received awards for their employee giving potential: B&W Service, Lockheed Martin and Williams Wrecker Service, all located at Stennis Space Center, received Gold Campaign Awards. Meaning their employee campaigns achieved between 75 and 100 percent of potential.

Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) of Stennis Space Center received a Bronze Campaign Award for raising between 25 and 49 percent of their employee giving potential. Giving potential is the total amount which could be raised if each full-time employee pledged one hour's pay per month.

Large Agency of the Year Award was presented to the Gulf Pines Girl Scout Council. Small Agency of the Year Award was presented to Pearl River Information and Drug Education. Each agency received \$1,000 to be used toward their programs. The agencies received the awards and money for their outstanding support of United Way and their local communities.

Anyone interested in learning more about UWSM or volunteering, please call 467-9501 or write to UWSM at P.O. Box 2128, Gulfport, MS 39505-2128



Dancers entertain

The Diamondhead Squares entertained residents recently at the Woodland Village Nursing Home. Pictured, top row (L-R): Merlin Smith, Phil Garberg and Camille Dazet. Middle row (L-R): Jerri Garberg, Betty Winkler, Joe Winkler, Margaret and Lucien Joly. Bottom row (L-R): Jerry and Mary Bates.

Guest recital scheduled

A recital featuring the talents of violinist John Gilbert and pianist Dr. Lois Leventhal will be presented at the University of Mississippi Gulf Coast Sunday, Jan. 26.

The recital begins at 2:30 p.m. in Hardy Hall on USMGC's Gulf Park campus.

Gilbert is a member of the faculty of the Texas Tech University School of Music. Prior to joining the Tech faculty in 1995, Gilbert was concertmaster with the Baton Rouge Symphony and the Knoxville, Tenn. Symphony.

Gilbert is an active soloist, recitalist and chamber music collaborator and regularly performs throughout the United States.

Leventhal is professor of music at USM's Hattiesburg campus. She holds extensive credentials as a soloist and accompanist as well as professor and teacher.

The recital will include works by Franz Schubert, Eugene Ysaeye and Johannes Brahms. For information, call USMGC at (601) 865-4705.

Youth concerts set

The Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra will present four concerts for the youth of the Gulf Coast area Friday, Jan. 24 at the Saenger Theatre for the Performing Arts in Biloxi at 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 1:45 p.m.

Under the direction of Andrew H. Harper, the theme of the symphony orchestra concerts will be music of the circus.

The concerts will be open with the march *Barnum and Bailey's Favorite* by Karl L. King, followed by Matthias Bamert's *Circus Parade*, which

depicts nine characters in the parade, e.g. Ringmaster, Clowns, Little Monkeys, Bears, etc.

The orchestra will also play Dimitri Kabalavsky's *The Comedians*, which depicts the Russian Circus. The concert will conclude with two compositions, one being Leroy Anderson's *Bugler's Holiday*, which will feature the trumpet section.

Notices of the concerts have been sent to public, private and parochial schools along the Coast. Fee per student is \$1, but no student will be denied entrance due to lack of funds.

Reservations are required and may be made by calling Betsy Jones at 452-7416.

Honor students

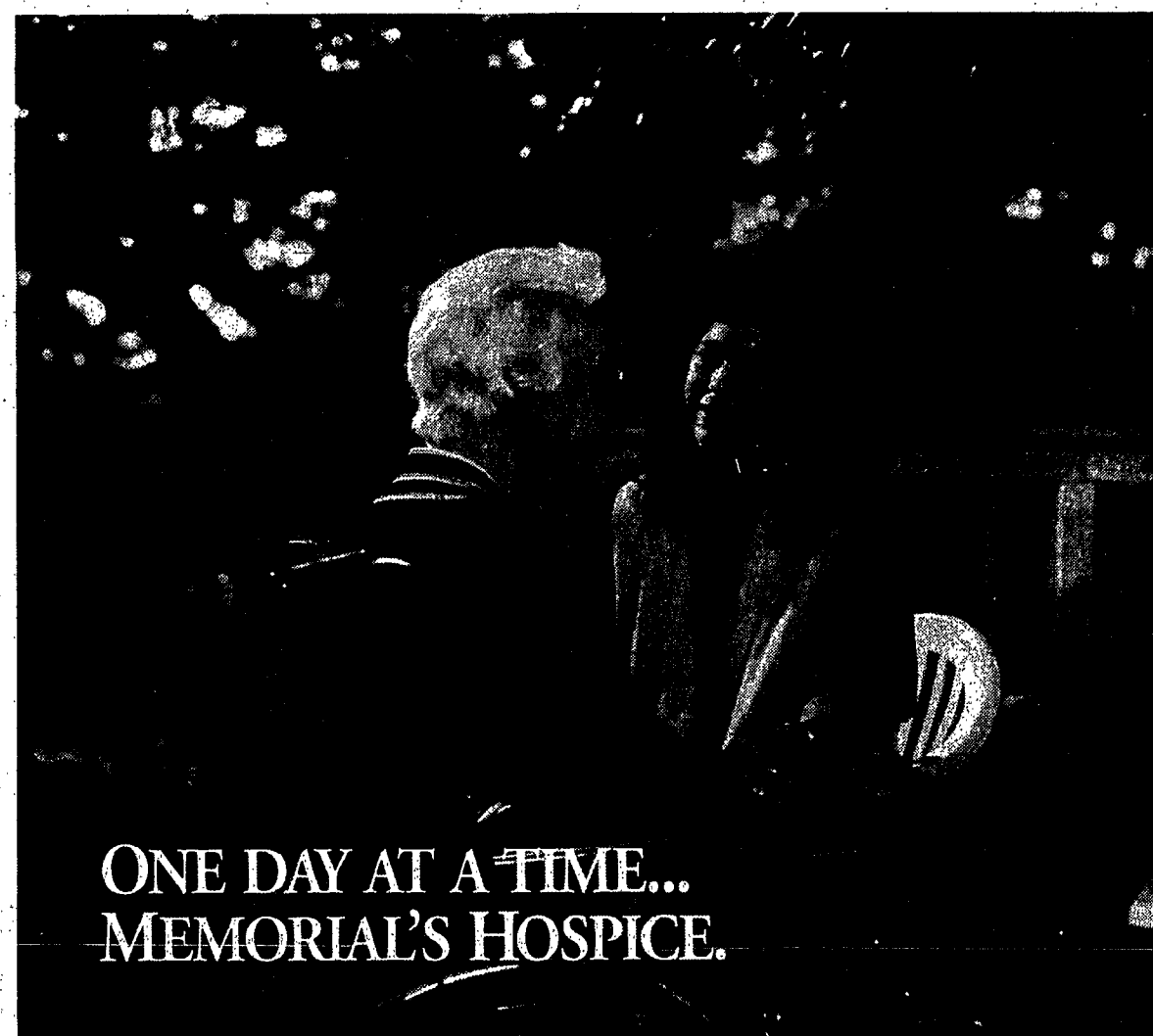
University of South Alabama president Dr. Frederick P. Whiddon announced the following students received scholastic honors during the 1996 fall quarter:

Anne Marie Courrege and Daphnia Maira Crosby, both of Bay St. Louis, are president's scholars with a 4.0 grade-point average.

Hadi Suzette Kerbl and Troy William Pepperman, both of Waveland, are dean's list students with a GPA of 3.5 or above.

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Krewe of Nereids celebrates Mississippi Gulf Coast

Special to the Echo
The Krewe of Nereids presented its 31st Annual Carnival Ball Saturday night at the Coast Coliseum. Ties were tapping to the rhythms of the Mississippi Gulf Coast as the krewe invited one and all to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the Coast.

For 30 years, through carnival pageantry, Nereids has taken its guests on a whirlwind tour around the world. This year, the krewe said, "All the ingredients for a sensational party are right here on the fabulous Gulf Coast of Mississippi. We've traveled hundreds of thousands of miles only to discover, we have the best of it all!"

An explosion of confetti announced the entrance of the captain, who, in a black and gold sequined sheath, dramatically represented the exciting night life of the Coast.

Her Majesty Queen Doris XXXI, capture the vibrant spirit of the people of the Coast in a scarlet red gown overlaid with gold embroidered flowers en-crustured with Austrian rhinestones. The traditional royal train of hermine bordered red velvet featured a crown and fleur-de-lis inspired appliques.

Following the Nereids tradition, the identities of Queen Doris and her maids are never revealed. The attire of King Nereus XXXI, Dr. Allen Koskan, matched in design that of Her Royal Highness.

In a salute to all that the Mississippi Gulf Coast has to offer, the maids and dukes of the Royal Court appeared. In a sheath of rich velvets, satins and laces, the first maid represented Mardi Gras, Mississippi style, the big daddy of all celebrations. Layers of purple, green and gold ruffles and sequined appliques reflected the gaiety of the season.

A profusion of purple plumes encircled the collar which depicted comedy and tragedy. Entering to the melody of "Jambalaya," the maid representing the catch of the day wore an aqua silk shantung gown. The sleeves and mermaid train of metallic silver netting were laden with a jambalaya of seafood delights interpreted in seafood appliques.

The gown of the maid who portrayed Coast artists combined metallic brocade, primary colored velvets, and colorful sequined appliques of an artist's creative tools.

The fourth maid represented NASA's Stennis Space Center. Her star-studded out-of-this-world space odyssey gown of peach satin, red velvet and gold lame featured trumpet sleeves and an apron-paneled skirt appliqued with silver and black rockets.

All of the grace and enchantment of the South came together in the Antebellum gown of the maid representing Beauvoir and the splendid vistas of the Coast. The black and white satin was accented with lace trimmed ruffles at the neck, sleeves and on the dramatic skirt. Appliques of Mississippi's magnificent magnolias encircled the hooped skirt.

The Coast's long sailing tradition was interpreted by the last maid's gown of regatta blue satin combined with an aqua cracked ice organza. The organza formed a wave motif with appliques of colorful sailboats. Plumbed applique headpieces and collars repeated the theme of each gown.

Costumed to portray the majestic oaks that dominate the Mississippi landscape, the krewe officers signaled the beginning of the evening's entertainment.

A series of music and dance

extravanzas highlighted the savory and spicy food of the Coast, its incomparable music, and the endless stretches of its sand beach. To the rhythms of "Luck be a Lady" and "Let the Good Times Roll," the krewe paid a visit to the new kid on the block — those exciting Coast casinos. The colorful and music-filled extravaganza concluded with the krewe and its guests in

formal attire joining in the macarena.

Dukes to His Majesty, King Nereus XXXI were Messrs. Gary Roche, Jim Hampton, Art Young, Gregory D. Dossett, Gary Gaines and Jerry Murray. Trainbearers to Their Majesties were Kathryn Taylor Heath, Amelia Leigh Handshoe, Caitlin Rae Whitfield and Mariss Elisabeth Turcotte.



King and Queen

The 31st annual Krewe of Nereids Carnival Ball was held Saturday at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum. Royalty was led by King Nereus XXXI Dr. Allen Koskan and Queen Doris XXXI. The annual Nereids parade is scheduled for noon, Feb. 2, Highway 90, Waveland-Bay St. Louis.

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Krewe of Real People sponsors carnival ball

The Krewe of Real People (KORP) will be sponsoring their 16th annual carnival ball Saturday, Feb. 1 at the Hancock County Civic Center in Bay St. Louis.

King and Queen VXI will be

crowned and their court presented at the festive gala.

The Krewe of Real People is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes the arts and culture of the Bay St. Louis downtown area.

King prayer breakfast at SSC

The 8th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday observance following the theme: Make real the dream, frame the vision for the 21st century, inspired employees of the Stennis Space Center to move King's 1963 speech, "I have a Dream" into the future. The observance on Jan. 14 was held as a prayer breakfast.

Guest speaker, Rev. Linda W. Bullock (also employed with the Naval Oceanographic Office) said, "In order to make real the dream we must make sacrifices. No time for a self pity party. It interrupts our vision." She continued, "Keep your eye on the vision and it will get you there."

Taking four attributes from King's life, speaker Keith Humphreys (general manager, Johnson Controls) said, "If we have patience and persistence to stand strong, we can walk the road ahead together."

Caring for other people and having the strength to resist anger and hatred were the final two attributes. He advised, "We must not let the small failures detain us from our dream and reaching our vision."

The annual observance is

sponsored by the SSC Association for Cultural Awareness and the Naval Oceanographic Office Black Employment Program.

Other participants in the program were William Nail (NASA) in the invocation, Capt. Dieter K. Rudolph (Commanding Officer, Naval Oceanographic Office) for opening comments, Gulfport Job Corps Choir, Deacon Ervin Bullock with one of King's favored musical selections, Denise Deaux (Association for Cultural Awareness), and Rhonda Foley (NASA) with the benediction.

Kopf honored

Heather Leigh Kopf of Kiln was named to the University of Mississippi chancellor's honor roll for the fall semester.

A grade point average from 3.75 through 4.0 is required of full-time students carrying at least 12 semester hours for listing on the chancellor's honor roll.

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SPORTS

8 THE SEA COAST ECHO—THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1997

BETWEEN THE LINES

By Richard Meek

The annual media feeding frenzy that defines Super Bowl week is in full swing. If there is any doubt, take a ride up Highway 603, where reporters from coast to coast have turned the Broke Spoke Lounge into Planet Kiln.

It is also the one time a year where, as a member of the media, you hang your head in shame. It is almost obscene to witness your peers, whom you respect for the other 51 weeks of the year, to reduce themselves carrying on like stargazing children meeting professional athletes for the first time.

By this time, the two Super Bowl participants have already spent at least a season being dissected like laboratory animals.

But the interviews continue at a frantic pace. At times, the queries border on, and go over, the edge of sanity.

Few of the questions actually pertain to the game, but that's a plus, because Super Bowls are three hours of boredom anyway.

Is there really anything else we need to know about the Green Bay Packers or New England Patriots? More importantly, is there more we want to know?

But insanity reigns, and ESPN 1, 2 and beyond, CNN, Fox, The Simpsons and The Bundys have all set up remotes near and around the Superdome to bring us the latest Bill Parcells coaching rumor du jour. Does it matter?

A president is inaugurated, but we are fed a steady diet of inane Super Bowl pieces.

Super Bowl Week is the annual rite of the media being exploited by the NFL. But in the media's quest for an exclusive, absurd story, reporters fail to even notice or care.

The anarchy will continue, with quarterbacks garnering the most attention, and offensive line sitting unnoticed, much like the ugly duckling at a school prom. The hype is entertaining to the fans, however, and there's the network's hook.

Unfortunately, the Super Bowl hyperbole has forced a significant story with far more serious implications to be forced to the back pages. The assault of a television cameraman by Chicago Bulls' resident thug Dennis Rodman would indeed be a major news at any other time of the year. Frankly, it should take precedence over the activities in New Orleans.

Not only was the action of Rodman inexcusable, so was the light sentence imposed by NBA Commissioner David Stern. Rodman should have been kicked out of the league for at least the remainder of this season, and beyond.

Instead, Stern, uncharacteristically showed a spineless side and dealt out the proverbial slap on the wrist with an 11-game suspension. The exile works out great for the Bulls because they will welcome the time away from the disturbed Rodman, yet happy that his rebounding prowess will be available for the playoffs.

Stern also slapped a \$25,000 fine on Rodman, which is about what he would spend on a date with Madonna.

Rodman's action was nothing less than criminal. Unprovoked, he brutally kicked the cameraman in the groin. The man eventually had to be carted off on a stretcher.

At a time of the year when we, the media, are canonizing two Super Bowl teams, it may be appropriate to take a look in the mirror and reflect on our

profession. What does it say about society when a professional athlete is allowed to mug a cameraman with the eyes of the nation looking on and suffer little repercussions?

More importantly, what does it say about us, the media, when we allow that to happen, when we push such a brainless act to the side so we can focus on more important matters? For instance, how the NFL press room is arranged.

The glorification of professional athletes is a longtime tradition, but one that carries with it potentially dangerous luggage. The trend of more and more athletes making their way from the playing fields to the court rooms is sending the wrong message to our youngsters.

In the minds of a teenager, if it's acceptable for a pampered, grossly overpaid athlete to run on the wrong side of the law, then why can't they?

Professional athletes should not be considered role-models because they can run faster or jump higher than most of the population. There are many more intangibles that must first be met, such as individual character, value system, and maturity.

The time has arrived for the media to stop portraying athletes as something more than what they are. Showcase a Dennis Rodman for what he is: a hoodlum allowed to roam free because he can rebound better than anyone in NBA history. What a sad indictment of all concerned.

One final Super Bowl question: Why are media types so afraid to honestly predict the game?

Planet Kiln?

Several talking mouthpieces pontificate endlessly about how New England will make it a close game. No chance.

Green Bay is a two-touchdown favorite, but that is a gift. As mentioned here earlier, the New England's Patriots would not have earned a playoff berth had they played in the NFC.

Super Bowl XXXI will turn out to be another bore simply because the outcome will be decided by halftime. The party will have already started at the Broke Spoke, awaiting the arrival of Brett Favre. Favre will enjoy a big day against a suspect Patriot defense and garner MVP honors.

Reggie White will make Drew Bledsoe wish he was at one of White's prayer services and not constantly on the underside of the Packer defensive end.

Even if the teams were evenly matched, the Packers would enjoy the home field advantage. One radio personality gabbed on about the Superdome being a neutral site, but that may be the most ridiculous statement of the week.

Favre is playing in his backyard, with his family and an entire county rooting him on. Added to the mix is that the Packers have supplanted the Cowboys as American's Team. Guess who has the advantage?

No matter the outcome, Super Bowl Week will be an enjoyable and lasting memory for the wonderful residents of Kiln. It has been a fun two weeks, and a much-needed shot of favorable publicity.

As for a prediction, I have not wavered from two weeks ago: Green Bay 42, New England 10.

Former coaches remember Favre as 'leader, competitor'

BY RICHARD MEEK

Former Hancock North Central Junior High coach Joe Shaw remembers the play as if it was yesterday's highlight.

With time running out, and 85 yards separating the junior high Hawks from a conference championship, freshman quarterback Brett Favre huddled with Shaw, searching for a bit of magic. Seconds later, a Favre pass to Charles Burton gave the Hawks the victory and the championship.

"That one plays sticks out

above others," said Shaw, now the interim coach at Bay High.

In three years, from seventh through ninth grades, Favre led the junior Hawks to a 29-2 record.

"He has a knack of winning," Shaw said of Favre, the Hancock County native who will guide the Green Bay Packers against the New England Patriots Sunday in Super Bowl XXXI in New Orleans.

"He made people around him play better," Shaw added. "He was a winner. You can't teach that."

Shaw and Rocky Gaudin, currently the Hawks head coach, credited with rebuilding Hancock in the post-Favre era, served on the same staff when Irvin Favre coached his son at Hancock. Gaudin said the one quality he remembers about Favre is his leadership.

"His strong suit was his ability to lead," Gaudin said. "He always had a never say die attitude. He was a fierce competitor and had a strong arm. But he gave no indication of future NFL stardom."

One reason may have been the Hawks offensive scheme. Before Favre's senior year, his dad switched to the run-oriented wing-T offense, limiting Favre's opportunities to showcase his arm.

Against rival Bay High in his senior season, Favre did not complete a pass in the Hawks' 21-19 loss. The loss was Hancock's first after eight consecutive wins. Hancock lost to D'Iberville the following week and declined an invitation to the Shrimp Bowl.

"His senior year, we may

have had the best offensive high school team I have ever seen," Shaw said. "But Hancock was a school of running backs. We were known for that."

Since his prep days, Favre has gone on to star at the University of Southern Mississippi and the Packers. He garnered NFL Most Valuable Player honors this year for the second consecutive season.

"It's an amazing thing," Shaw said. "I'm so proud, it's unbelievable. He had to overcome a lot of things to get to play. It's like a television movie."

Gaudin said it's rewarding to watch one of his players move on to a certain Hall of Fame career.

"It's a good feeling," Gaudin said. "I hope I contributed something, and played a small part in his life."

Shaw echoed Gaudin's sentiments, saying he hopes as Favre's head coach in junior high, he "had a little bit" to do with his ex-player's success.

"It's still hard to believe," Shaw said.

Hancock Hawks win first game of year

BY RICHARD MEEK

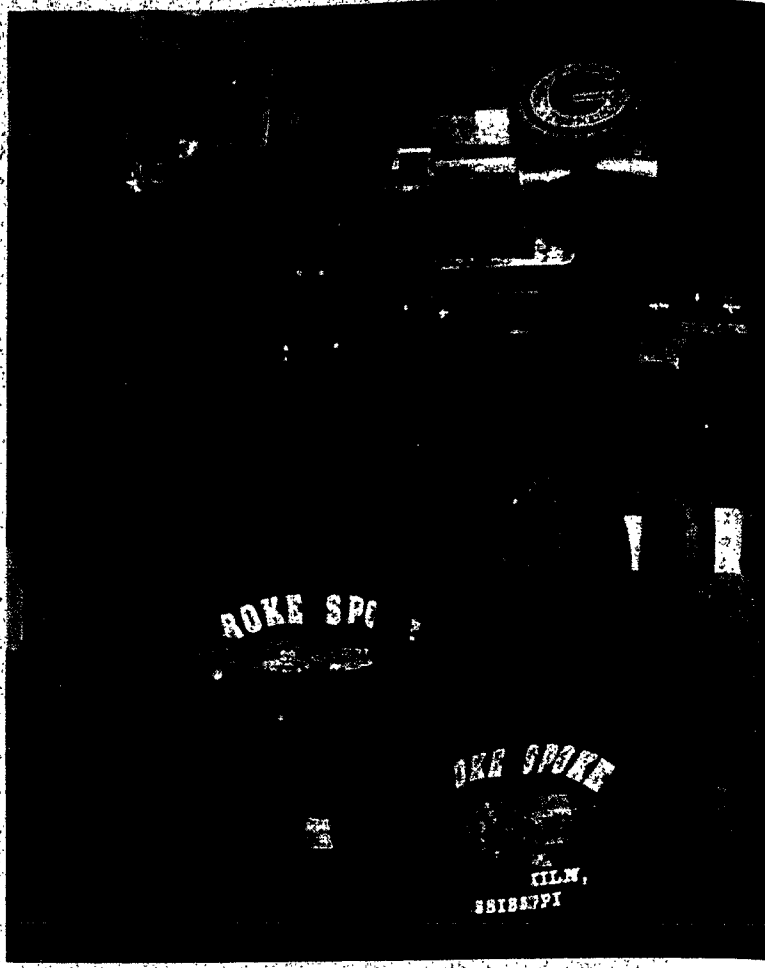
Hancock High won its first game of the year with a 77-50 rout of Pearl River Central Tuesday night at Hancock. The victory was the Hawks' first after 15 consecutive defeats.

"It's a big relief to get our first win," Hancock coach Dennis Peterson said. "We have lost four games in a row, and five practices in a row. We have been hanging in there, and finally we

Hancock 65, PRC 42. Mindy Ladner scored 16 points and Jessica Puchen 15 in the Lady Hawks' victory. Margaret Cuevas added 13 for Hancock.

Bay High Lady Tigers 78, Oak Grove 33. Chrissa Hale and Christina Bradley combined for 35 points to lead the Lady Tigers to a convincing victory over Oak Grove.

Bay High Lady Tigers (12-0-1) will play Oak Grove (0-4-1) this



Stevie and Mabel Haas stand behind the bar of the Broke Spoke in Kiln. The bar has become a media hub during a blitz of Super Bowl activities. (Echo staff photo by Betsy Gagnet)

Soccer roundup

Bay High 4 Resurrection 1

The Bay High Tigers beat Resurrection 4-1 Tuesday night for their seventh win of the season.

Bay High jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the first half on goals by Hung Le.

"We completely dominated the first half," Tiger coach Ken Matthews stated. "We beat them to the ball, made good passes and took quality shots. We may have gotten a little too confident. We let them get back into the game in the second half and take control for good awhile. It really made me nervous. I think it took their scoring a goal to wake us up."

After Resurrection scored to make the game close at 2-1, Bay High responded with goals by Timothy Kingston and Jason Rieben to regain control.

"Steven Boudro had a good game in goal, especially his kicking. He was booting the ball 60 yards. He can put it high and far."

The Tigers (7-4-4) will host North Forrest on Saturday at 1:45 p.m. They will close out the regular season next week with contests against Mercy Cross in Bay St. Louis on Monday at 7 p.m. and on the road against Picayune on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

The state playoffs begin Saturday, February 1. Bay High will probably end up in second place in the division behind St. Stanislaus.

"We let North Forrest score a goal on us in our 10-1 win and it's the difference in the standings," Matthews said. "St. Stanislaus and Bay High have beat the same teams and split the season series so first and second comes down to points. They have one more point than us."

That means, if things stay as they are, Bay High will open the playoffs on the road and St. Stanislaus will host their opening round.

If both teams do well in their brackets of the playoffs, they could meet again in the South State, Class II championship game on February 7 in Jackson with the winner advancing to the overall state title game the next day. St. Stanislaus won the title last year.

Lady Tigers 2 Oak Grove 0

Goals by Andie Fillingame and Michelle Perniciaro propelled the Bay High Lady Tigers to a 2-0 victory over Oak Grove Saturday at Joe D. McCullough Stadium. Bay Thomas recorded the shutout in goal.

Both teams had eleven wins coming into the game and were leading their divisions. Coach Matthews said, "The girls were very confident and played very well."

Bay High Lady Tigers (12-0-1) will play Oak Grove (0-4-1) this

scoreless tie Tuesday night in Bay St. Louis.

"We knew this was going to be a tough game," Matthews said. "These are two evenly matched teams. We could very well meet again in the second round of the state playoffs. Last year we opened the playoffs at Ocean Springs and beat them 1-0 in overtime."

"This was a big defensive battle. Rachel Perniciaro had an excellent game. Our entire defense did."

The Lady Tigers (12-0-2) will travel to Gulfport Friday for a 6 p.m. contest with the Lady Admirals. They will end the regular season next week with contests against Long Beach, Monday at 5 p.m. in Bay St. Louis and at Picayune Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

The Lady Tigers have won the District 7, 4A soccer title and will begin the state playoffs on Saturday, February 1.

Last year the team reached the state championship game where they fell to Vicksburg 4-2, finishing the season at 15-3.

Harrison Central girls 2 Our Lady Academy 0

The Our Lady Academy Crescents lost their fourth straight soccer game Tuesday night, falling into third place in the division.

Harrison Central scored on a penalty kick just before halftime and later on a direct kick midway through the second half to win 2-0.

"Our girls played well on both defense and offense," Coach Karen Hunt stated. "The score was no indication of how we played. We took 24 shots on goal but nothing went in."

OLA faces a must win game today against Long Beach in Rock-A-Chaw Stadium at 5:30 p.m. With the Crescents' loss, coupled with a Long Beach win, the Lady Bearcats have moved into second place in the division. "There's a tight race for second place in this division," Hunt added. "They still have to play Bay High."

The Crescents (8-5-1) will close out the regular season with another home contest against Gulfport next Thursday at 6 p.m.

SSC changes

St. Stanislaus scheduled home game with Petal scheduled for tonight has been moved to Petal's junior varsity game scheduled for 6 p.m. and the varsity game on Feb. 3 will be at Petal's home.

St. Stanislaus will play Petal on Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m. at Petal's home. The game will be a varsity game. The game will be a varsity game. The game will be a varsity game.

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Cranford leads Junior Rocks

The St. Stanislaus Junior High soccer team avenged their only loss of the season Monday afternoon, defeating the St. Paul's Wolves 2-1. The Rocks now stand at 6-1 on the season. Drew Cranford tallied both

scores in the first half, redirecting passes from Matt Powell and David Heaps into the net. The team appeared a bit rusty during the contest having had two matches canceled and not playing two weeks.

However, the combination of Powell, Heaps, Jimmy Strickland, Nick Benvenuti, Jeffrey Hansell, Gene Bourgeois and Matthew Byrd controlled the midfield and the attacking third of the field taking numer-

ous shots and applying pressure throughout the game.

Defensively, the Junior Rocks held solid for most of the match, allowing the only score on a penalty kick after a foul in the box. Bryce Breland, Billy Kenny, Evan Tusa and Stephen Kulikowski successfully shut down the opposing offense negating any threat. Keeper Ken Harshbarger again played an excellent game in goal.

The Junior Rocks have outscored their opponents 24-4 which equates to a 6:1 ratio. They continue play with a home match against Biloxi next Monday at 6:30 following an OLA game.

Sea Wolves weekly recap (4-1-0)

Tuesday, Jan. 14, Mississippi 5 at Baton Rouge 4
The Sea Wolves edged the Kingfish for the second time at the Centraplex despite squandering three two-goal leads. Quinn Fair (5, 6 pp, sh) scored twice for Mississippi, including the game winner at 6:39 of the third period.

Special teams were the key for the Sea Wolves as they scored a shorthanded goal and went three for five on the powerplay.

Mississippi led 2-0 after one on goals by Kelly Hurd (16) and Troy Mann (22 pp).

Fair and Andrew Dale (2pp) put the Sea Wolves ahead 4-3 after two. Hurd and Mann each registered three points in the contest. Frederick Beaubien posted his first road win of the year stopping 23 of 27 shots.

Wednesday, Jan. 15, Louisiana 2 at Mississippi 3 Shootout

The Sea Wolves again squandered a two-goal lead and had to rally in the shootout to edge the Ice Gators at the Coliseum. After a scoreless first period, Kevin Evans (13 pp) and Quinn Fair (7 pp) staked Mississippi to a 2-0 lead at the end of two. The Ice Gators tied the game on third period goals by Louis Dumont (pp) and Don Parsons. The Sea Wolves trailed 2-0 in the shootout before Kelly Hurd, Kevin Hilton and Shawn Frappier scored to win it. Frederick Beaubien stopped four of six in the shootout. Shots were 34-32 Sea Wolves.

Friday, Jan. 17, Mississippi 3 at Tallahassee 0

Sylvain Daigle stopped 40 shots as the Sea Wolves handed the Tiger Sharks just their third loss at home. Daigle was brilliant in the first period as Mississippi was outshot 13-2. Kevin Hilton (7) and Jeff Rohlicek (16) tallied in the second period. John Kosobud (7) added an empty net in the third period.

Tallahassee outshot the Sea Wolves 40-24. Daigle recorded his second shutout of the season both against the Tiger Sharks.

Saturday, Jan. 18, Mississippi 2 at Birmingham 4

The Sea Wolves trailed 2-0 by the 6:33 mark of the first period as the Bulls cashed in on the powerplay. Mississippi tied the game on goals by Kelly Hurd (17) and Simon Olivier (7). Todd Holt scored early in the

second period to give Birmingham a 3-2 lead after 40 minutes. Jamey Hicks ended the suspense with an empty net goal.

The Sea Wolves went 0 for five on the powerplay. The Bulls outshot the Sea Wolves 37-32. Sylvain Daigle suffered the loss.

Sunday, Jan. 19, Mississippi 2 at Pensacola 0

Frederick Beaubien recorded his first shutout of the season stopping all 40 Ice Pilot shots. Kevin Hilton (8) scored 54 seconds into the game to give the Sea Wolves a 1-0 lead after one.

Troy Mann (26) tallied at 19:10 of the second period. The Ice Pilots outshot the Sea Wolves 28-14 over the final two periods and 40-30 for the game. Pensacola was 0 for five on the powerplay.

AFTER THE WHISTLE

* Mississippi hits the "break" tied second in the South with a record of 22-14-7 and 51 points. They are even with Mobile and Tallahassee and trail Birmingham by one point.

* The Sea Wolves have won four of the last five including three of four on the road.

* Mississippi is sixth in the league in attendance averaging 6,475 fans per game through 20 dates.

* The Sea Wolves are 15-2-3 at home with 33 points, tied third for the most points in the league in their own building. They have outscored the opposition 79-55, an average of 3.95 to 2.75. They are 12-1-3 in the last 16.

* Mississippi is 7-12-4 on the road with 18 points and have been outscored 103-80, an average of 4.48 to 3.48.

* The Sea Wolves are 7-0 on Tuesday, including 5-0 at home.

* Mississippi is 11-3-1 when outshooting the opponent and 11-1-5 when outshot. The Sea Wolves are tied second in the league with 11 shorthanded goals, eight of which have come at home.

* Mississippi has been in 11 shutouts this season and are 4-7, 2-3 at home.

* The Sea Wolves are 5-5-2 against teams 500 or below.

* Mississippi has held the opposition scoreless 11 times in the first period this season and are 9-0-2. They have been outscored 57-55 in the opening 20 minutes.

* Mississippi has allowed a league low 31 third period goals.

TRACKING THE SEA WOLVES

* Troy Mann is tied 16th in the ECHL scoring race with 53 points (26g, 27a). He has 15 points in seven of the last 10 games (6g, 9a) and 39 points (17g, 22a) in 21 of the last 27.

* Jeff Rohlicek has 18 points in 11 of the last 13 (3g 15a) and 35 points (11g, 24a) in 20 of the last 26. He is tied fourth for the league lead with three shorthanded goals.

* John Kosobud is on a five game assist and six game point streak (2-4-6).

* Kevin Evans leads the ECHL with 319 penalty minutes in 37 games. He is second in the circuit with 47 minor penalties and tied third with Roger Maxwell in major penalties with 21.

* Evans has 10 points in eight of the last 13 (7g 3a), and 23 points (11g, 12a) in 15 of the last 21.

* Mike Muller is tied second among all defensemen in the ECHL with 12 goals and is tied sixth in scoring among blueliners with 31 points (12g, 19a).

* Kelly Hurd has seven points (2g, 5a) in four of the last five and 22 points (11g, 10a) in 12 of the last 15. He leads the team in shots with 135, an average of 4.35 per game.

* Roger Maxwell is second in the league with 245 penalty minutes.

* Kevin Hilton has a five game point streak 2g, 3a, 5 points and 10 points (6g, 4a) in eight of the last ten. He leads the team with a +9.

* Sylvain Daigle, named to the ECHL All-Star team, is tied 10th in the ECHL with a 3.14 goals against average. He is third in the league with 91.6% saves percentage and tied second in shutouts with two.

* Frederick Beaubien, who will replace Daigle in the All-Star game, is on a personal three game winning streak.

* Mike Muller leads the team with 9 multi-point games.

UPCOMING GAMES:
Friday, Jan. 24, 7:05 at Louisiana

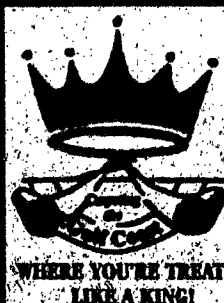
Saturday, Jan. 25, 7:05 vs Mobile

SSC golf tourney

The Ninth Annual St. Stanislaus Invitational Golf Tournament is scheduled for Feb. 21 at Pass Christian Isles Golf Club. A noon shotgun start is set.

The cost is \$75 and includes green fees, cart, and food. Over \$1,500 in prizes will be awarded.

For more information, call the SSC Alumni Office at 467-9057.



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Favre

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the football? Someone responded that he was Brett Favre from Hancock. He asked what position he played, and was told that USM signed him as a defensive back. The coach asked if he played quarterback and was told yes, he said, we better look at him for quarterback, because that boy can throw that ball, and that is the way it started."

Hancock North Central came into existence in 1959 with the consolidation of Kiln, Sellers, Caesar and Dedeaux schools. Irvin Favre retired from the school after 25 years, including one as an assistant. He also served two years at St. John and two years at Long Beach for a total of 29 years in coaching.

"When I took over at Hancock, basketball was a showcase for this school, and Hancock had not proven a lot in football. Yet, I knew it took more money to dress a football player than a basketball player, so it was a shock to me to find out that more money was spent on the basketball program than on football," Favre recalled.

Favre continued, "I threw up my hands many times wanting to quit. It was like beating a dead horse. Roland (Ladner, the basketball coach) and I did not get along too good at the time. He had a tremendous basketball program, and in football we did not have anything. I was as dedicated as he was, and I wanted to have just as good a football team as the basketball team for the school."

"I worked hard, and I finally went to Roland one day, and I asked him for help. I told him that I am a family man, like him and I don't want to hurt basketball, as we could work together to help each other. I have to hand it to Roland, as he finally came through and helped a bit, and I think that was the beginning of Hancock getting better and football winning," Favre said.

Coach Favre emphasized, "Before that it was tough. There was always that rift between us. And, now until this day I consider Roland Ladner a very good friend of mine. I feel real good about our friendship."

Coach Roland Ladner, now retired, is one of the nation's winningest high school basketball coaches.

Both Irvin and Bonita Favre said that Brett placed a lot of emphasis during his early years on conditioning.

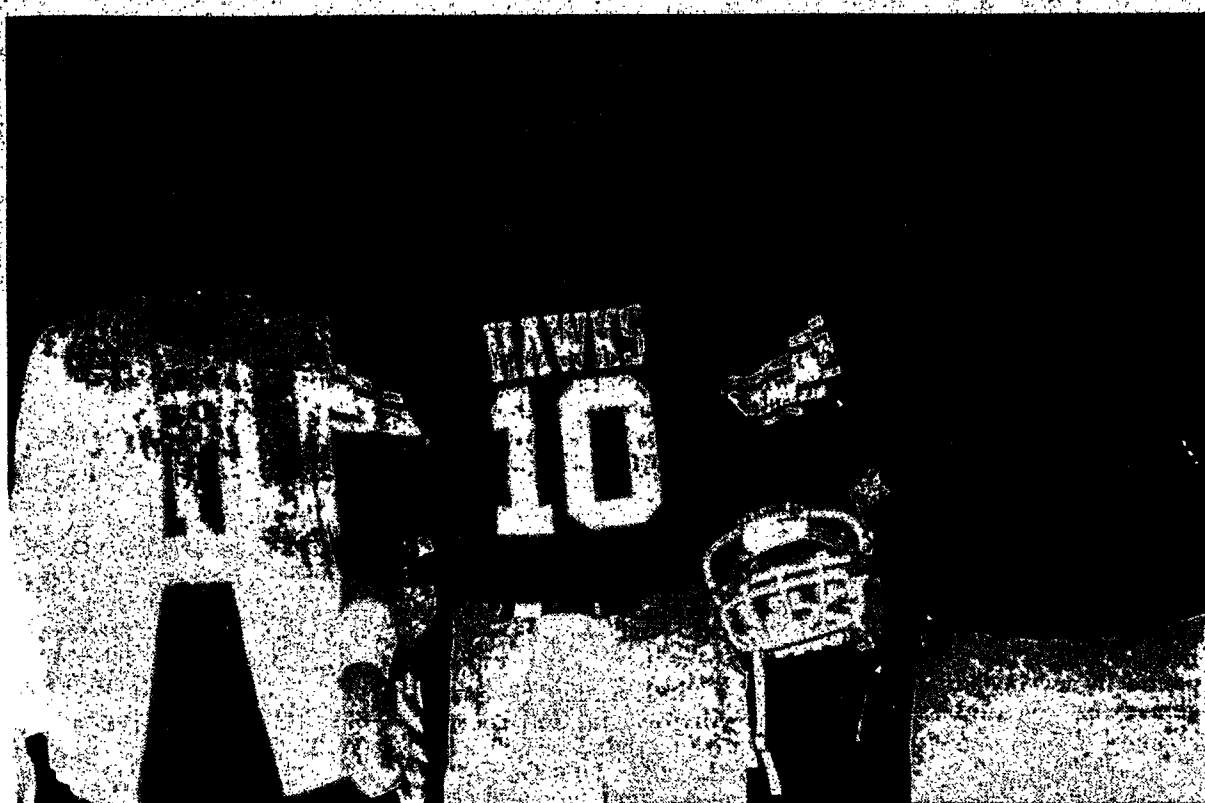
He would run on the road on a regular basis from their residence located on Rotten Bayou in the small Fenton Community, adjacent to Kiln.

Bonita said Brett was always careful of what he ate and drank.

Irvin Favre, of Choctaw Indian descent, resides on Rotten Bayou, which was known by the Indians as Benneshewa.

Hancock County Historical Society President Charles Gray said, "The Indians would clean a lot of fish and game in the bayou, and since there was only a little flow of water, it would let off a smell, and that is the reason for the name Benneshewa."

Irvin said, "The big difference in Brett being named as the National Football League's Most



Brett's senior night

Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre is flanked by his mother Bonita Favre, left, and father Irvin Favre, his high school football coach on senior night in 1986 at Hancock North Central. His mother worked the concession stands for many years. (Echo file photo.)

Valuable Player this year compared to last year, is fact that he has put his football team in a position in the Super Bowl, and he is coming home to play."

"The magnitude is unbelievable. Since Tuesday, we have given interviews to 19 different reporters, and today was the fifth television station," Favre said.

Note: this interview was Sunday afternoon, and another television crew arrived before this interview was completed.

Bonita Favre said the only tickets Brett was able to get were for family members. "Brett got 26 tickets for our family, eight for his wife's family and four for his agent."

Two of the tickets are on the 50-yard line, and one will go to Irvin's dad, Alvin Favre and the other to Bonita's mother, Izella French.

"The other tickets are scattered all over the Dome, a ticket for Deanna, Brett's wife is in the end zone," Bonita Favre said.

Brett's parents report that the Green Bay folks are much like the people of Hancock County, blue collar and very friendly.

Both said the only problem with Green Bay was the extreme cold weather.

Bonita compared Green Bay to Hattiesburg without the University of Southern Mississippi. She added, "We cannot stand their cold, and they cannot

stand our heat."

Bonita, a 1962 graduate of St. Joseph's Academy in Bay St. Louis, has a master's degree in special education and had taught school for 19 years before becoming involved in Brett's activities.

Bonita was a member of the Gold Jays basketball team coached by Elaine Colson.

Colson, the Krewe of Nereids captain, was named Hancock County's 1996 Citizen of the Year in December.

The life of the Favres has somewhat changed, both Irvin and Bonita report.

"The demand on Brett is very strong now, and they would like to accommodate everybody, but they can't," Irvin said.

Irvin continued, "Wherever Brett goes in the Green Bay area, he is flooded with hundreds of people. He is very, very popular there."

"Everybody wants to grab a hold of us and talk about Brett. A lot of people get in touch with us one way or the other and want something, and it is not easy to do all of it," Irvin said.

In commenting about a football player, Irvin Favre said, "A player has to put his time in. He has got to work. I really feel like Brett worked very hard. He worked in the weight room, he worked very hard at home doing situps and pushups every night. I did not have to tell him. He was self motivated. I

guess the final thing, you have to be blessed with some talent. He is very smart, got good football sense. You got to look at it, there are only 28 starting quarterbacks in the National Football League," Favre said.

Favre emphasized, "I also look back and say, if it happens to a little kid who comes out of Hancock County, Kiln, Miss., with a population not all that great, somebody else can do the same thing."

"We are very thankful that the Lord put us in Hancock County, and we are very thankful we went through the Hancock County School System. We raised all our kids here, which is four of them, and we have not found a better place," Favre added.

Favre continued, "Brett loves to come home. No matter where Brett goes, whether it is Milwaukee, I don't care where it is in the universe, he never forgets where he was born and raised. He will move back here one day. I hope it is not too soon. I hope he will stay with it for some time. But he will move back."

Bond

Continued from Page 1

He also threatened to go before the Hancock County Grand Jury "to get an indictment (against supervisors) for malfeasance in office."

Ladner wanted supervisors to publish the list of signatures in the local newspaper, but Board Attorney Gerald Gex said the Board was required only to post the list in the courthouse.

"I'm not comfortable putting the names in the paper," said District 3 Supervisor Lisa Coward.

Ladner has also called for a countywide vote on zoning, but Moran showed him an opinion from the State Attorney General's Office last May that ruled no election was required on zoning.

Moran referred to Ladner's local radio talk show, and said he and other supervisors "have been dogged pretty heavy," (on zoning, the bond issue). "Are we going to get the blame for this too? (the disqualification of signatures)."

Then, District 1 Supervisor Jeep Ladner and District 4 Supervisor Steve Seymour jumped on Ladner.

Ladner claimed Jerry Ladner was telling listeners that supervisors got the legislature to pass a local and private bill exempting Wellman from paying any school district taxes while the giant plastics manufacturing plant is under construction at Port Bienville.

"No one is exempt from taxes. That simply is not true," said the supervisor.

Ladner said it was common practice for the state to exempt industries from taxes during the construction phase, and that was true in the case of Wellman.

pay a total \$10.2 million to the school district by the year 2014. "You've got to get your facts straight," District 4 Supervisor Steve Seymour told Ladner.

"We're having to put out fires that you start."

Seymour repeated his pledge that, "The first thing we (supervisors) don't want to do is raise taxes."

He said supervisors are required by law to advertise their "intent" to float any bond issue.

"All this is, is an intent," said Seymour, "to get a bond rating." He said supervisors "might be years away from (issuing the bonds) to blacktop all the county's roads, but if the figures don't come out cost effective, we're not going to do it."

Supervisors also allowed Anita Garbinsky to take a stab at Ladner. At their last meeting, Garbinsky thanked supervisors for voting in a comprehensive zoning ordinance, and said she wouldn't mind if her taxes were raised if the county would put in sewerage and paved her roads.

Garbinsky, who lives in Shoreline Park, asked Ladner where he lived.

Ladner replied, "Waveland," but he said he owned other property in the county.

"Who do you think paved your road?" asked Garbinsky. "Taxpayers paid for it." She told Ladner he had no right to speak for her when he tells his talk show audience most people don't want their taxes raised.

"Who is we? You don't have the right to talk for me," said Garbinsky.

She told supervisors, "We elected you, and you didn't

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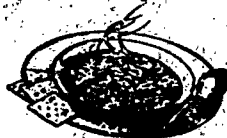
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Zoning

Continued from Page 1

The \$15 fee is waived for those settling in the flood plain areas of Hancock County, but they must obtain a Flood Elevation Certificate and approval from the County Health Department of their on-site sewerage disposal system or agree to hook up to existing public sewerage lines.

Gavney said he also has about four requests from persons seeking "conditional uses" in certain areas and those requests will require a hearing before the County Planning Commission. The requests can be handled at the monthly meeting of the Planning Commission, and there is no charge for the hearing, he said.

There is a \$50 fee charged for requests that would require a public hearing, such as a special exemption or a waiver to the regulations or requests that would require amendments to the zoning text or map.

Gavney said his office has already issued two compliance certificates for homes being constructed in Diamondhead.

Comments on zoning and other matters are available at the Planning Commission Office, 1000 Bay St., Room 100, Waveland, Miss. 39375.

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O/D Trans, Air Conditioning, AM/FM Stereo, Cassette, W/D, Speakers, P/Steering, P/Brakes, Tinted Windows, Dual Air, Dual Mirrors, Center Console, \$14,4517



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Air Conditioning, P/Windows, P/Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Luggage Rack, Privacy Glass, AM/FM Stereo Cass., Overhead Console, Alloy Wheels, \$13,7577



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1997 DODGE RAM CLUB CAB

ST. Decor Group, O/D Trans, Air Conditioning, AM/FM Stereo Cassette w/Quad Speakers, Power Steering, Driver Air, \$14,7737



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LAKESTAR

BUSINESS NEWS

THE SEA COAST ECHO—THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1997-11

Diamondhead group to meet today

Sheila Dossett, district manager for Junior Achievement of Mississippi Inc., will be guest speaker at the general meeting of the Diamondhead Business & Professional Association (DB&PA) at 8 a.m. today at Park Ten Lanes Bowling Alley in Diamondhead.

Dossett is responsible for recruiting volunteers in the district and surrounding areas, as well as securing funding for the Junior Achievement.

Prior to joining Junior Achievement four years ago, Dossett taught school. She received her bachelor or arts in education at the University of Mississippi.

The elected officers of the DBPA for 1997 are Tony Esau,

Diamondhead Water and Sewer District, president; Lou Lamendola, LL LTD Fashions, vice-president; Mary Kipping, Corporate Cheer, secretary; and Patrick Wild, The Peoples Bank, treasurer.

The board members include Mickey Jordan, Jordan & Associates, past president; Russ Syverson, Passion Cruise, program chairman; Thelma McLendon, Mortgage Guaranty, publicity chairman; Jon W. Ritten, Coldwell Banker/Coast Delta Realty, membership chairman; and John Hall, Shingle Shine of America.

For information on applications for membership for 1997, contact Jon W. Ritten at 255-9188.

Hancock Holding completes merger

Southeast National Bank has become the newest addition to Hancock Bank of Louisiana. The announcement was made by A. Hartie Spence, president and chairman of the board of Hancock Bank of Louisiana.

The merger, announced in July, 1996, has been approved by Southeast shareholders and all regulatory agencies. With the close of this acquisition, coupled with its recent merger completion with Community State Bank, Hancock now has six new offices in Tangipahoa Parish.

Spence stated that "Tangipahoa Parish is a very important area in Hancock's strategic plan for expansion, and we are happy to be providing our same quality services with added benefits to customers in six locations in Tangipahoa Parish as well as throughout our Louisiana network. Tangipahoa customers now benefit from several additional services including 24-hour account information, full-service mortgage lending, trust and investment services, and loan-by-phone.

With these six additional office locations, customers now have access to full-service banking at any of Hancock's 76 offices and 100 automated teller machines (no transaction fee at any Hancock Bank office) in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Reggie Harper, senior vice president, is pleased with the new relationship and the new benefits he now has to offer customers. He commented, "Our customers have questioned us

in the past about adding these new services that Hancock brings to us, and now we're able to provide them conveniently at six local offices."

Hancock first entered Louisiana in 1990 with the acquisition of American Bank & Trust Company in Baton Rouge. Since then, the Company has been joined by First State Bank & Trust of East Baton Rouge Parish, Washington Bank and Trust Company, Franklinton, La., and First National Bank of Denham Springs.

With the addition of Southeast National Bank, Hancock Bank of Louisiana will operate 36 banking offices in four Louisiana parishes: Tangipahoa, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and Washington, and will have total assets of approximately \$1 billion.

Hancock Holding Company, headquartered in Gulfport, is the parent company of Hancock Bank in Gulfport and Hancock Bank of Louisiana in Baton Rouge. Bank-related affiliates include Hancock Mortgage Corporation, Harrison Finance Company and Hancock Investment Services, Inc.

Hancock announced results for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 1996. Net income for the year was \$31.6 million compared to \$27.0 million for the year ended 1995.

Hancock Holding Company's common stock is listed on the NASDAQ National Market System under the symbol HBHC and in the NASDAQ newspaper quotations under the abbreviation Hanchd.

Housing market remains strong

Mississippi's temperatures may have taken a plunge during December, but home sales warmed off the winter chill. Despite the usual seasonal slowdown, the state's housing market, while slowing down somewhat, fared well overall in December due to strong consumer confidence levels and stable mortgage rates.

December's Mississippi Home Sales Report, released Jan. 18 by the Mississippi Association of Realtors, shows a slight drop from November's sales, a trend not unusual for this time of year.

However, this slight drop is more welcome than the some past seasonal falloffs that rival the dips in winter temperatures, said MAR President John M. Dean Jr. of Leland.

"Santa Claus gave sellers a nice surprise," said Dean. "Mortgage rates weren't threatening to rise—or to fall—so folks felt like it was a good time to buy. The trend of strong consumer confidence was maintained here in Mississippi."

Mississippi's Realtors closed 1,185 homes last month, which is slightly below November's 1,200. The state's two largest markets, Jackson and Memphis, reported a slight increase in sales.

price in December was in Oxford at \$109,549, followed by the Tupelo area at \$104,471 and North DeSoto at \$102,828. The lowest average home sales price for December was in Greenville at \$63,964.

Hattiesburg had the highest average home price reported for 1996 at \$95,123. The Gulf Coast area reported its 1996 average home sales at \$88,864, and the Golden Triangle's average home price for the year was \$89,223.

The Mississippi Association of Realtors is the voice of real estate in Mississippi, representing 4,000 real estate professionals active in all phases of brokerage, development, appraisal and property management.

Average statewide statistics are:

Total homes sold December 1996, 896; November 1996, 925.

Average selling price December 1996, \$86,320; November 1996, \$85,052.

Total homes sold on the Gulf Coast:

December 1996, 173; November 1996, 188; December 1995, 162; and year-to-date, 2,385.

Average selling price on the Gulf Coast:

December 1996, \$90,888; November 1996, \$88,123; December 1995, \$87,417; and year-to-date, \$88,123.



Hope Haven gift

Hope Haven celebrated the holiday season when Wal-Mart associates presented Hope Haven with a check for \$1,052 representing a percentage of sales between 7 a.m. and noon Saturday, Nov. 30. "Thanks to the support from our customers, we are proud to give Hope Haven some of the recognition and financial support it deserved," said Ray Cox, manager of the Waveland Wal-Mart Store. Pictured are, from left, Ray Cox, store manager, and Terry Latham, Hope Haven director.

Whitney Holding announces earnings

Whitney Holding Corporation, parent company of Whitney National Bank, Whitney Bank of Alabama and Whitney National Bank of Florida, announced 1996 earnings of \$44.1 million, or \$2.45 per share, before recognition of nonrecurring administrative expenses related to the mergers with The First National Bank of St. Mary Parish, American Bank & Trust and Liberty Bank.

All financial data related to these mergers, which were treated as poolings-of-interests, are included in the Whitney financial statements. After recognition of these nonrecurring before tax merger expenses of \$4.2 million, Whitney earned \$40.6 million or \$2.26 per share of common stock. For the fourth quarter of 1996, Whitney earned \$12.2 million or \$0.68 per share before merger related expenses.

For the year 1996, the company has a return on average assets of 1.23% and a return on average equity of 11.33%, before nonrecurring merger expenses. Whitney continued to show superior capital strength at Dec. 31, 1996 with a regulatory Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio of 14.87%, a total risk-based capital ratio of 16.12%, a leverage ratio of 10.19%, and book equity to total assets of 10.72%.

In addition to the earnings performance and capital strength, there were further financial highlights during 1996.

—The regular quarterly cash dividend was increased to \$0.25 per share of common stock, which is a \$1.00 per share annual rate. Dividends per share declared in 1996 represent an 18.3% increase over dividends declared in 1995.

—The banks continued to experience attractive loan growth with a 28.9% increase in average loans during 1996. Throughout the year, this growth occurred in virtually all sectors of the portfolio.

—The Net Interest Margin for the year was a healthy 4.81%.

—At quarter-end nonaccruing loans were \$7.2 million, or 0.35% of total loans, while total nonperforming assets were \$12.3 million, or 0.33% of total assets, which represent decreases of 12% and 15%, respectively from a year ago.

—The reserve for possible loan losses remains strong at \$49.3 million and 547% of nonaccruing loans.

—In March 1996, Whitney completed its merger of First Citizens BancStock, Inc., parent of The First National Bank in St. Mary Parish, headquartered in Morgan City, La. with \$242 million in assets and 11 branches.

—In October 1996, the company completed the mergers with American Bank & Trust and Liberty Bank, both of Pensacola, Fla. The acquisitions mark Whitney's entry into the dynamic Florida banking market.

—In October 1996, the Whitney Holding Corporation announced a pending merger with the Washington, D.C. based Republic National Committee.

tional Bank of Houma. This transaction is expected to conclude in the first quarter, 1997.

—In November 1996, The Whitney announced a pending merger with the Gulfport-based Merchants Bancshares Inc., the parent company of Merchants Bank & Trust Co., which has \$207 million in assets and 13 banking locations along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This transaction is also expected to conclude in the first quarter, 1997.

Whitney Holding Corporation, whose stock is traded on the NASDAQ exchange (WTNY), is the holding company for Whitney National Bank, Whitney Bank of Alabama and Whitney National Bank of Florida.

Whitney National Bank is headquartered in New Orleans with 61 branches in south Louisiana, Whitney Bank of Alabama has 10 banking offices in Mobile, Montgomery and the Alabama Gulf Coast region, and Whitney National Bank of Florida has five branches in the Pensacola area. The Whitney, which has been in continuous operation since 1883, has assets of approximately \$3.8 billion.

Tax workshop set at USM

The University of Southern Mississippi's Small Business Development Center is offering a workshop, "Doing your business tax return using Turbo Tax computer software," on Thursday, Jan. 30 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the USM Small Business Development Center in Long Beach.

The workshop will show you how to do your tax return using "Turbo Tax" software. The instructor will be Sue Roche of Infotectives.

Co-sponsors are Gulf Coast Business Technology Center, Greater Biloxi Economic Development Foundation, Coast Chamber of Commerce, USM Gulf Coast Continuing Education and Infotectives.

Fee for the workshop is \$25 and must be pre-aid due to limited seating. To pre-register, mail your check made payable to USM SBDC (by Jan. 24) to USM Small Business Development Center, 136 Beach Park Place, Long Beach, MS 39560.

For information, call USM SBDC at 865-4578.

Barbour named to board

Mississippi Chemical Corporation (NYSE:GRO) announced Haley Barbour has been appointed to its board of directors. The appointment increases the size of the board to 12 members.

Barbour is a partner in the law firm of Barbour Griffith & Rogers, with offices in Mississippi and Washington, D.C. He recently served two terms as chairman of the Republican National Committee.

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AUCTION EVERY SAT., 7PM. Mostly antiques every first Sat. Furniture, glassware, collectibles, tools & misc. Ledner's Regal Auction, 6 1/2 miles east off Hwy. 603, on Firetower Rd. 255-1947.

30 Lost & Found

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36 Special Notices

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46 Home Improvement

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GENERAL CONTRACTOR, ROOFING, carpentry, vinyl siding, additions, painting, masonry. Free estimates, licensed, bonded. Masin Hill 466-4877.

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53 Schools & Instruction

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56 Services Offered

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These vehicles will be sold on or after January 27, 1997.
Call 467-3082 for more info.

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73 Help Wanted

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM: Office/management/office, must have at least two years experience. Applicants should be motivated, organized, computer literate and enjoy working with the public. Apartment with utilities are part of the compensation package. Resumes can be sent to: OMO c/o The Sea Coast Echo, P.O. Box 2009, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521-2009.

73 Help Wanted

NURSERY WORKER NEEDED during Sunday Worship Services, Wednesday evenings and other special occasions. Apply at First Baptist Church, 141 Main St. or call 467-4005.

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HELP WANTED: EXPERIENCED brake & front end mechanic. Apply in person Tire Town, 342 Hwy. 90, Waveland, Monday-Saturday.

WILDLIFE/CONSERVATION JOBS: Game Wardens, security, maintenance, etc. No exp. necessary. Now Hiring. For info call 219-794-0010, ext. 8632, 8am-10pm, 7 days.

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NOTICE OF SALE
WHEREAS, on May 11, 1999, Joseph M. Everett, Sr.

[illegible]

thence South 323.00 feet; thence West 2515.34 feet, more or less, to a point on the East margin of the Lower Bay Public Road, as now maintained; thence North 10.00 feet; thence East 145.00 feet; thence East 1320.00 feet; thence South 132.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, containing 21.19 acres, being a part of the NW 1/4 and SW 1/4 of the North 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 2, Township 19 South, and Range 14 West, Hancock County, Mississippi.

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GERALD C. GEX
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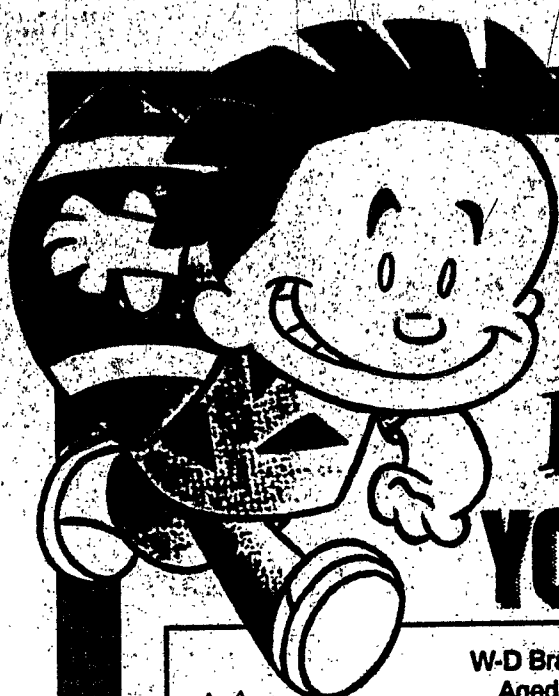
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